

At ConAgra, one of the world's largest food companies, Lee used his experience to expand its diversified Refrigerated Foods Companies. As president, CEO and member of the Office of the Chairman, Lee oversaw multibillion dollar businesses, provided a secure place of employment for thousands of hard-working employees and wonderful food products for American consumers. While consumers would not recognize the name of Lochmann, the products that he produced are an integral part of our daily diets: Armour hot dogs, Healthy Choice luncheon meats, Butterball turkeys, Swift Premium bacon and Eckrich sausages.

Mr. President, many ConAgra employees are constituents of mine in Indiana, and we know first-hand the significant role the company plays in my state's economy and our country's agricultural industries.

Lee was not only a leader at ConAgra, he was an industry trader, as well. A long term Director of the American Meat Institute, Lee's peers paid this fine gentleman a well-deserved tribute by electing him Chairman of the industry's National Trade Association in 1992.

Mr. President, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Lee Lochmann, and I wish him, his wife Agnes and their family the best in all of their future endeavors.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO SEARCHLIGHT'S WOMAN OF THE DECADE, MRS. VERLIE DOING

● Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Verlie Doing, an outstanding woman who will receive a distinguished honor when she is named Searchlight, Nevada's, Woman of the Decade in October. This particular tribute is one I hold especially dear, as it is being given to a woman who has helped make my hometown the unique community it is today.

Founded by those in search of gold, Searchlight began as a mining town. It is a strangely quiet place, not really mentioned in the tales of Nevada history. However, this is my home, and Verlie Doing has helped to establish it as a beating heart in the once silent land found south of Las Vegas.

Mrs. Doing relocated to Searchlight with her husband, Warren, in 1967. Since that time, she has been active in organizing community activities as well as providing employment for the majority of families living in the area. Upon settling in Searchlight, Mrs. Doing assumed a position on the Searchlight Town Advisory Board and began her legacy of work. She is an original member of the town's Emergency Medical Treatment team, as well as the Searchlight Museum Guild. She has served on the Clark County Parks and Recreation Board since 1970, establishing areas for children and adults alike to not only enjoy the many splendors of Nevada's scenery, but to partake of beneficial recreation programs.

As a member of the Parks and Recreation Board, Verlie has seen first hand

the need for centers where people can participate in community activities. For this reason, she and her husband donated to the city the land for the Searchlight Senior Citizen Center. Currently, this center offers seniors an opportunity to socialize and continue their education through arts and crafts and exercise. Day care and food programs are among the most important offered at the center and provide assistance to those seniors who may otherwise be institutionalized.

Not only has Mrs. Doing been energetically involved in community activities, she has also helped to foster Searchlight's business community. Currently, Mrs. Doing is serving as the sole owner of the Searchlight Nugget Casino, the largest employer in the city. Established in 1979, the Nugget has increased not only employment, but has aided in boosting the economy. She has employed hundreds of Searchlight residents, providing many families with incomes where, without the casino, there would be none. It is this entrepreneurial spirit that has brought vitality into both the business community and the entire town.

Most of all, my family and I have been friends of Verlie, her late husband, Warren, and their son, Riley, for more than thirty years. The Doings have made not only Searchlight a better place, but Nevada and our great country as well.

I commend Verlie on her significant contributions to my hometown. Without her enthusiasm, energy and love for her home, Searchlight would be much less. It is for these reasons that I proudly support the decision of the Searchlight Celebration Committee in their selection of Mrs. Verlie Doing as Searchlight's Woman of the Decade.●

GREAT MINDS, SMART GIVING

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to an article by Dr. Samuel J. LeFrak, entitled "Great Minds, Smart Giving" from the May/June 1998 issue of Philanthropy magazine. LeFrak is chairman of the LeFrak Organization and has been honored for his many years of philanthropic giving.

Recently, through the LeFrak Foundation, Dr. LeFrak has done something incredible for the state of Michigan. Concerned that an emphasis on traditional liberal education at America's colleges and universities is diminishing, LeFrak chose to endow the LeFrak Forum at Michigan State University. This program focuses on political philosophy and public policy, helping professors to teach with an emphasis on traditional Western ideas. The Forum will accomplish this through lectures, conferences, research, publications and fellowships. The students of Michigan State University are very fortunate to have such a wonderful program and will undoubtedly benefit from it.

As we continue our efforts as a nation to raise our children to be truly educated adults, imbued with the val-

ues of our traditions and the bases of well-ordered liberty, I feel we can look to the LeFrak Forum as an excellent model. I ask that the text of "Great Minds, Smart Giving" be printed in the RECORD.

The text follows:

GREAT MINDS, SMART GIVING—A NOTED PHILANTHROPIST ON RECLAIMING ACADEME

(By Samuel LeFrak)

When my wife Ethel and I began discussing a major gift to an academic institution, we wanted to do something new and off the beaten track of bricks-and-mortar, scholarships, and endowed chairs. We also talked at length about the problems of higher education and how we might help to solve them. Our grandsons, Harrison and James, were just finishing college and from them we had a pretty clear idea of the dismal state of today's campus landscape. Both reported that the news about political correctness and multiculturalism is largely true. While it is surely an exaggeration to say that the traditional liberal arts curriculum is gone, it is true that an entire generation of graduate and undergraduate students is being trained to a drumbeat critical of the Western tradition as racist, sexist, homophobic, hegemonic, Euro-centric, and rationalistic (a vice, it now seems!). The path to academic success is definitely smoother for those who adhere to this fashionable view. The graduate students are, of course, the professorate of the future and the teachers of the coming generation of leaders in politics and business. What happens in the seminar room, no matter how bizarre or arcane, eventually makes its way to the boardroom.

Now, Ethel and I have the deepest respect for the great books and ideas of the Western tradition. If that tradition is so bad, how is it that we have from it—and only from it—democracy, capitalism, the ideals of freedom, equality of opportunity, and the dignity of the individual? To us it would be nothing short of a catastrophe for this great tradition to disappear as the focal point of a liberal education. Yet the traditional curriculum definitely is on the defensive these days: we hear of English departments where Shakespeare is no longer required and history departments that teach nothing about America. The faculty at Yale could not bring itself to live up to the terms of a generous gift intended for new courses on the Western tradition, and had to return the money—with interest. So it seemed appropriate that we use a LeFrak Foundation gift to help assure the survival and vitality of traditional liberal education.

Ethel and I had been to Michigan State University a few years earlier, when I had been awarded an honorary degree. While there, we met a group of scholars of political philosophy in the political science department. These professors are very accomplished: they have fine graduate degrees, are good and popular teachers, and have impressive records of research and publication. But they are also steeped in and respectful of the Western tradition and, unlike many professors in the social sciences and humanities, respectful of entrepreneurial capitalism and free-market solutions to social problems. After prolonged discussions involving these professors, Ethel and me, and my grandson, Harrison, we decided to endow a program: the LeFrak Forum at Michigan State University. Endowing a program—rather than a building or a chair—met the criterion of establishing a new and vital entity. The aims and activities of the Forum met the criterion of doing something to help traditional scholars hold their own against the current academic tides.